



The BROTHERS of MERCY

BROTHERS OF MERCY MAGAZINE | January 2021



The New
Assisted Living &
Memory Care
Community

page 8





PETER C. EIMER
BROTHERS OF MERCY
CEO

Staying Optimistic

2020 has been a tough year for everyone. However, it's the residents and their families that have endured so much more this year. The lack of being able to physically visit their loved ones for long periods of time possibly ranks at the top of the heartaches they've had since last March.

Now, with the recent outbreak (again) in Western New York, physical visits are once again off. It's at times like this where nobody can be blamed for being a little (or a lot) depressed. The winter solstice was Monday December 21st. That is the shortest (and darkest) day of the year which kind of reflects the mood around town.

So is there a reason for optimism in these dark times? Absolutely! Remember that after December 21st, the days get longer and the sunlight is with us a little more each day.

And just as we begin to get more sunshine beginning on December 22nd, a vaccine has arrived and is being distributed. The CDC has targeted staff and residents of long term care facilities as the first to be offered the vaccine. This should start us down a sunnier path going forward - even if there are a few cloudy times along the way.

So, as dark as things may seem now, they will get better. They always do. Nobody knows exactly how things will eventually turn out, but there is reason for optimism. And that's a good thing.

*It's Always **Darke** &
before the **Dawn***



Contents

04 | Fundraising Events

The Foundation gets creative with many new fundraising initiatives.

08 | Campus Growth

The new Assisted Living and Memory Care Community is now a reality.



05 | Lifting Spirits Day

Lifting the spirits of Residents, Patients and Healthcare Heros.

06 | Profile

Mindee McDonald

Executive Administrator at the New Sacred Heart Home.



07 | Awards and Recognition

Newsweek Recognizes Brothers of Mercy in Best Nursing Home 2021 List.



Other News

09 Foundation News

10 News and Events

13 Spiritual Care

14 Remembering Br. Hugh

15 History of the Brothers

16 Annual Report of Donors 2020

Care-A-Thon 2020...Our Biggest Fundraiser Ever

Earlier this year the annual Caritas Awards Dinner had to be canceled because of Covid-19, so it was unclear how development goals were going to be met. The entire development team kept moving forward in faith never counting on what was about to happen. Thanks to WBBZ, WIVB and Russell J. Salvatore, the Foundation was presented with a rare and unique opportunity to take their largest annual fundraiser and move it to TV!



Russ Salvatore, John DiScuillo and Gabriel pull the winning ticket

Care-A-Thon 2020 aired on Sunday, October 18th at 8:00pm. Co-hosts John DiScuillo and Gabriel Mediak, showcased the new Assisted Living and Memory Care community while speaking to a number of Brothers of Mercy residents, Advisory Council members, administrators and staff. Receiving the Patsy Casilio Humanitarian of the Year Award, Dr. Kenneth Snyder from UB Neurosurgery and Bassam M. Deeb, Ph.D. president of Trocaire College were special honorees. Special guest Russell Salvatore brought star power and helped pull the winning tickets from a special raffle, and Buffalo's own Mike Nugent sang a couple of Sinatra classics capping the evening. All proceeds benefited the BOM COVID-19 Relief Fund.

This initiative turned out to be the most successful fundraiser in the history of the Brothers of Mercy, thanks to John DiScuillo and his team, Chris Musiel and Rich Lee. Care-A-Thon 2020 raised over \$157,000! The initial goal was to meet last year's numbers never thinking the event would have generated a 22% increase over last year.

A very special thank you goes out to the generous sponsors. that included:

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Give from Home Day 2020

On April 21st, the Brothers of Mercy Foundation took part in their first online fundraising initiative, #GiveFromHomeDay, and raised over \$21,000 in just 24 hours! *"Our heartfelt thanks go out to Dave and Joan Rogers for their \$10,000 matching gift incentive, which helped make this campaign so successful",* said Nancy Gugino, Foundation Director.

In addition, the Foundation also did a direct mail Covid-19 appeal which has raised another \$15,000 plus!



Nancy Gugino, Foundation Director

Lifting Spirits Day Honors BOM Heroes



WNY came out in full force on Tuesday, May 5, to rally support and lift the spirits of residents, patients and healthcare heroes at the Brothers of Mercy Campus.

Residents and staff alike were collectively touched and left feeling incredibly grateful (and at a loss for words) by the overwhelming response. Over 135 cars filled with people, pets, balloons, decorations, pom-poms and hand-made signs and posters, joined together to spread smiles and thank BOM for being a place of hope and inspiration for their loved ones and the community.

The “Lifting Spirits” float led the charge, grand marshalled by Russell J. Salvatore, Legislator Edward Rath and singer Michael Nugent. Nugent, with the assistance of the Clarence Fire Company, ascended the Nursing and Rehab Center in a fire truck bucket to visit resident Naomi Slusser, who just celebrated her 101st

birthday! Joined by the crowd below and staff members inside, Nugent crooned “Happy Birthday” to a beaming Naomi.

The motorcade continued on to cover each community on campus, stopping briefly to serenade the excited residents outside sporting masks and signs, spaced 6-feet apart from one another. Car after car made a point of shouting words of encouragement and thanks to residents and staff rallying together to weather this difficult period.

Lifting Spirits Day at BOM was the perfect way to kick off Brothers of Mercy’s “Healthcare Heroes Week”, May 5-12, established to honor and highlight the work of all team members at Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus. Thank you to everyone for showing up this week for the one-of-a-kind Brothers of Mercy Family!

Chiavetta’s Chicken Dinners Generate \$12,000



Due to Covid restrictions, the annual Caritas Awards Dinner (which was BOM’s largest fundraiser) was canceled. The Foundation was forced to think out-of-the-box regarding fundraising efforts. At the time restaurants were only doing take out, and “drive through” dinner options were quite popular. So Nancy Gugino and her team decided to give Chiavetta chicken dinners a try. Three dinners were scheduled throughout the summer, and it generated over \$12,000! It was also a great team building exercise, as a number of staff members and volunteers made it work.

PROFILE

Mindee McDonald

Executive Director
Brothers of Mercy
Sacred Heart Home



As the Executive Director of the Brothers of Mercy Sacred Heart Home, Mindee McDonald has risen through the ranks the old fashioned way - starting at the bottom and working her way up through hard work and persistence.

A dedicated employee for over 20 years, Mindee started in dining services when she was only 16 years old. *"This was my very first job working part time when I was going to high school".*

Like everyone when they are 16, Mindee really didn't know what she wanted to do for a career, but the family environment and support she received at Brothers of Mercy made a lasting impression on her. As time went on she developed a career here.

At 18 she became a PCA, and because she really felt nursing was her calling, Mindee pursued a degree in nursing at The University at Buffalo. After graduation in 2004, she became a staff nurse and in 2006 was promoted to the Director of Nursing. In addition to

those responsibilities, in 2010 she became the Assistant Administrator and in 2018 was promoted to Executive Director of the Sacred Heart Home.

She likes the fact that the entire campus is family oriented and focused on the quality of life for the residents, no matter which building. Quality of life is job one for the residents and their family.

"Partnership with the family members as a whole is very important. We work in tandem with and keep them updated with what's happening with their loved one" claims McDonald.

Through the years she's made special and lasting connections with both patients and family members. *"I can't tell you how many times family members have come back to thank us for all the things we did for their loved one. They are so pleased with Brothers of Mercy they would never consider anywhere else. I am proud and thankful to be part of such a wonderful organization that truly cares. That's why I'm here".*

Did You Know?

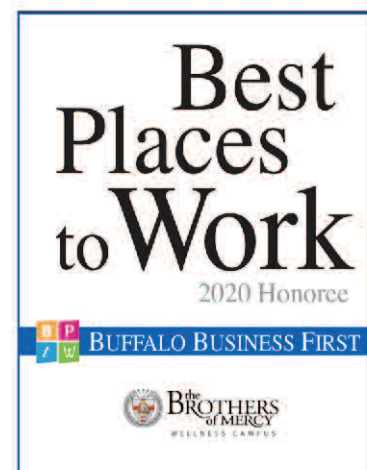


In 1950, the Brothers purchased 126 acres of farmland in Clarence, NY, which would eventually evolve into today's Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus. The Sacred Heart Home was the original Skilled Nursing building. In 1951, ground was broken on the first wing of Sacred Heart Home, which served only 36 male patients. In 1963, Sacred Heart Home added a South Wing and new Chapel to the facility. At a cost of \$1.3 million, the expansion added 56 beds (going from 36 to 92) to the facility.

BOM Selected as "Best Places to Work 2020" Honoree

Brothers of Mercy has been selected as a Buffalo Business First "Best Places to Work in 2020" honoree. Buffalo Business First selected Brothers of Mercy based on their employee accomplishments. Employees were asked to complete a workplace engagement survey, which was developed, collected and calculated by Quantum Work Place, based in Omaha, NE.

The survey measures six key engagement categories focusing on employee needs, communication, manager effectiveness, personal engagement, team dynamics and trust in leadership. In order to gather statistically sound results, companies must reach a minimum level of employee participation, based on total number of employees, to be eligible as a finalist.



Newsweek Recognizes Brothers of Mercy in Best Nursing Homes 2021 List



For the 2nd year in a row, Newsweek and research firm Statista teamed up to compile a list of the top Nursing Homes throughout the country. **The 5-Star rated Brothers of Mercy finished in the top 2%** (ranked #14 out of 620 Nursing Homes and Skilled Nursing Facilities) in New York State.

Newsweek and Statista designed a system that evaluated nursing homes using data from two sources: 1. Recommendations from medical experts (nurses, administrators, therapists and physicians), and 2. Nursing Home performance based on CMS data in three domains (health inspections, staffing, and quality measures). This is the 2nd year that Newsweek has published the list.

Thank You Odd Fellow & Rebekah Benefit Fund

In 2019 the Brothers of Mercy was awarded a \$300,000 grant by the Odd Fellow & Rebekah Benefit Fund. This generous gift was used to fund a brand new assisted living wing, part of the Brothers of Mercy Memory Care & Enhanced Assisted Living Community.

Here CEO, Peter Eimer and Foundation Director Nancy Gugino accept Phase Two payment from Gene Urban of the Odd Fellow & Rebekah Benefit Fund.



A New Era in Assisted Living and Memory Care Aligns Well with the Brothers of Mercy Mission of Mercy



The Brothers of Mercy Mission Statement talks about providing a supportive, compassionate and healing environment for those we are privileged to serve. The new Assisted Living and Memory Care community aligns perfectly with that mission of service.

"This project not only expands our physical campus and our ability to serve the people of our region, it also builds on the legacy of care established by the Brothers of Mercy in Western New York 95 years ago," said Peter Eimer, Brothers of Mercy CEO. "We are bringing to life a vision for specialized memory care and enhanced assisted living care that will truly revolutionize our Wellness Campus, and propel our organization into a bright future."

The project includes 64 assisted living apartments, along with a special, 32-unit memory care wing, designed for seniors experiencing any stage of memory loss impairment, including dementia and Alzheimer's disease.

Enhanced Care services will also be offered, enabling Assisted Living and Memory Care residents to receive more specialized services as their needs change, while aging in place in their existing suites.

The new facility will employ a "Wellness Neighborhood" community design. This innovative and forward thinking approach aims to replace the regimented structure, and often clinical feel, of traditional assisted living and memory care facilities with a flexible environment of care.

The Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting event originally scheduled for December 1st had to be postponed due to elevated Covid levels in WNY. As soon as those levels flatten out, we will re-schedule. Stay tuned for the new date.

Thank You Once Again Russell J. Salvatore



Peter Eimer, Russ Salvatore and Nancy Gugino select the van

The generosity of Russell J. Salvatore has been a blessing for the Brothers of Mercy Campus over the past few years. He has helped fund the purchase of flat screen TV's in the skilled nursing home, renovations on the 4th floor, the construction of the Russell J. Salvatore Outpatient Therapy Center and a major gift for the brand new Memory Care Community, just to name a few.

For the past few years, the Brother of Mercy has been in desperate need of a wheelchair van for transporting residents. At a recent meeting, Mr. Salvatore was asked where he gets his vans from. Not missing a beat, Russell said: *"You need a wheelchair van Nancy? I'll take care of it."* Needless to say, Brothers of Mercy's prayers were once again answered by the kindness of WNY's number one philanthropist Russ Salvatore.

Operation Lifting Spirits - Allowing donors to send residents a Christmas Care Package



This month the Western New York community stepped up to make a difference in the lives of 125 residents and patients at the Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus. For this year's Giving Tuesday campaign, which ran Tuesday, December 1st, the non-profit organization launched "Operation Lifting Spirits", which allowed donors to anonymously send residents a Christmas care package.

Like all senior care facilities throughout the state, Covid-19 safety precautions have restricted visitor access, making it challenging for residents to stay connected to families and loved ones. These donations were a simple way to make a big difference and spread some cheer among residents that have been through so much in the past year. Gifts (delivered December 15th) included cookie care packages and beautiful poinsettia plants, resulting in surprised smiles and excitement amongst residents at Brothers of Mercy's Nursing & Rehab Center and Assisted Living & Memory Care Community.

States Brothers of Mercy Administrator Mindee McDonald, "We are incredibly grateful to these donors who gave from their hearts all because they wanted to spread joy with our residents. Thanks to "Operation Lifting Spirits", every single resident of Sacred Heart Home, and over 75 at our Nursing & Rehab Center, received a thoughtful care package. We've all been through a challenging year, and I really think this simple gesture made each one of our residents feel special and supported!"

"Operation Lifting Spirits" is an extension of Brothers of Mercy's signature "Lifting Spirits" campaign, which debuted in May of 2020 with BOM Spirit Week and the "Lifting Spirits Motorcade" as a tribute to the organization's hundreds of healthcare heroes and senior residents. Dozens of community members and organizations, along with family members and loved ones of residents, have supported the campaign through donations, in-kind gifts, meals for healthcare workers, greeting cards, letters and messages of hope, plus so much more, in response to the pandemic. Brothers of Mercy is grateful for their continued generosity and support.

NEWS & EVENTS

Book Signing by Dr. Margaret Eberl

The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus hosted a book signing event for our very own Dr. Margaret Eberl, Medical Director at Brothers of Mercy and author of "A Snow Day with Summer".

The event took place on Sunday, March 1st from 1-3pm at the Montabaur Heights Events Center. Attendees had a chance to meet the author, son Greg and her dog Summer, who inspired the book. 28 personally signed copies of the book were sold at the fun-filled event.



Dr. Eberl, Summer and son Greg



Peter Eimer

Peter Eimer named "Who's Who in Healthcare"

Brothers of Mercy CEO, Peter Eimer, was named in 2020 "Who's Who in Health Care" by Buffalo Business First. Every year Buffalo Business First recognizes leaders in the health care industry based on performance, years of service and how well the facility is operating. Brothers of Mercy has been ranked a 5-Star facility for many years.

This is the second year in a row Mr. Eimer was recognized. His previous position was Chief Operating Officer. Peter is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh (MBA) and Canisius College (1979).

David Rogers appointed to the BOM Board of Directors

David Rogers was recently appointed to the Brothers of Mercy Board of Directors. Rogers is a co-founder and a member of the Board of Directors of Life Storage, Inc. (formerly Sovran Self Storage), one of the country's largest providers of self-storage services.

David served as CFO at Life Storage from 1984 to 2012 and was its Chief Executive Officer from 2012 to 2019. He also serves on the Boards of the Catholic Health System of WNY, the Old Fort Niagara Association, the Life Storage Foundation for a Better WNY, Read to Succeed Buffalo, the Buffalo Niagara Partnership and WNY Heritage Magazine.



David Rogers

Sister Patricia Burkard, OSF Named New Board Chair



Sr. Patricia Burkard, OSF

Sister Patricia Burkard OSF, was recently appointed as Chair of the Brothers of Mercy Board of Directors. She is a member of the Sisters of St. Francis of the Neumann Communities. Prior to the formation of the present Catholic Health System, Sister Patricia served on numerous local boards of former Catholic hospitals and long term care facilities in the Diocese of Buffalo. For over 15 years she was a member of the Board of Directors of Fidelis Care New York.

Joseph Dunn, PhD - In Memoriam

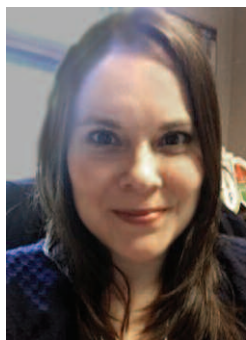
Former Brothers of Mercy Chairman, Joseph Dunn, PhD passed away in December 2019 after a short illness. He was one of the first lay people to join the Brothers' Board over 10 years ago.

Joe was a humble and unassuming guy, and yet his professional accomplishments were amazing. He was a very well known cancer research scientist, a local business leader and just a great human being. Joe was always very supportive and chose Brothers as the place he wanted to be when he became ill.



Joseph Dunn, PhD

Lana Kota Appointed New Director of Health Services at SHH



Lana Kota

Lana Kota has been appointed Director of Health Services at the Brothers of Mercy Sacred Heart Adult Home.

A graduate of Daemen College's Nursing program, Ms. Kota has over 21 years of experience working in the health services industry, most recently holding the position of Assistant Director of Nursing at Autumn View Manor, part of the McGuire Group.

In her new position, Ms. Kota will oversee the health services department of the Sacred Heart Home as it migrates from its current location into a brand new, 92,000 sq.ft. location on the Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus.

2021 Special Events

From "Take Out Tuesday" in January, to the "Christmas Cookie and Poinsettia Sale" in December, the Brothers of Mercy Foundation and Special Events team will have a very busy 2021. Here is a list of all the things happening on the BOM campus this year.

January - Take Out Tuesday | **February** - Virtual Meat Raffle | **March** - Easter Plant Sale, Annual Easter Appeal
April - #GiveFromHomeDay | **May** - Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner | **June** - Brother's of Mercy North American Province Day "Light the Night" Ceremony and Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner | **July** - Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner
August - Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner | **September** - Oktoberfest 5K Race | **November** - Care-A-Thon 2021, Annual Appeal, Giving Tuesday | **December** - Tree Lighting Ceremony, Gift Card Gathering Event, Christmas Cookie and Poinsettia Sale

Nursing Home Transformation Continues

Last year, the 2nd and 3rd floor halls and common areas were given a major face lift. This year the entire 4th floor will be completely transformed.

All rooms will see dramatic upgrades including new bathrooms, floors, fixtures, and flat screen TV's, to name a few. Nursing stations, floor halls and the sitting areas outside the elevators will have fresh, updated looks.

This is all part of ongoing strategic vision to modernize the skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility. *"Patient care is a top priority and these updates are all part of that philosophy"*, says CEO Peter Eimer.



BOM Team Bikes 65 miles for Ride for Roswell Challenge



Ashlie Kohlhausen breaks through the finish line at Montabaur Heights as her teammates follow closely behind during a "modified" Ride for Roswell bike ride challenge on August 12th.

Beginning at 6:00 am on Wednesday, August 12th, Brothers of Mercy employee Ashlie Kohlhausen, joined by her sister Alicia Kohlhausen, sister-in-law Ashley Kohlhausen and friends Katie Cuedas and Joanne Amadori Dagastino, embarked upon a 65-mile "Ride for Roswell" bike ride challenge.

The Ride for Roswell, which typically draws thousands of cyclists to raise money for WNY's Roswell Park Cancer Institute, one of the leading comprehensive cancer centers in the nation, was modified this year due to COVID-19 restrictions. Brothers of Mercy was honored to host this team of riders, and proud of their collective efforts, which raised thousands of dollars for this great cause.

The ride, which took seven hours to complete, began at Brothers of Mercy's Montabaur Heights Independent Living Community, where Ms. Kohlhausen has been the Life Enrichment Director since its opening in 2016. The riders' trail extended along the Clarence Bike path, later continuing onto some side roads and looping around to Montabaur's finish line at 1:00 pm, where Brothers of Mercy residents and staff, along with the riders' family members and friends, were waiting to cheer them across the finish line, complete with signs, balloons and streamers!

Where is God in This Pandemic?

By Renée Villa | Campus Director of Spiritual Care



In my anguish I called to the Lord: I cried to my God for help. In the heavenly temple my voice was heard; my crying reached God's ears.

Psalm 18: 16-18

Ministering in a nursing home setting is extremely rewarding but can also be very challenging even under the best of circumstances. The reality is that our residents arrive here because their health has declined and they are in need of round the clock care. It can be a difficult transition for families. Brothers of Mercy becomes their new home. With the arrival of the Pandemic, additional obstacles surfaced. The rules for socializing were constantly changing. Working in a pandemic is like being in the house in the

Wizard of Oz as a tornado spins you out of control. You keep waiting for the house to land when suddenly another forceful gust arrives. Each day becomes a battle to regain your footing.

Our residents have lived through a lot of history and difficult circumstances. They have survived wars, stock market crashes, job losses, personal losses to name a few. They have already proven they have resilience by virtue of their age. They have a foundation of reserve. At times they cry out in anger. They shed many tears. They are in good company. Jesus also cried out in anger. He wept.

To know that someone understands how you feel can be a great source of comfort. We have a God who understands our suffering and offers to walk with us during the worst of times. What matters most is that God hears our cries for help. Psalm 18 promises that no cry goes unheard. I find it very soothing to know my cries reach God's ears. Who better to listen? It is necessary for us to also listen and pass it forward.

This is a time to remember the prayers that were answered in the past. We have a God who loves and hears us. We can reflect God to everyone we encounter by providing a listening ear and a kind word. This simple gesture will serve to comfort others and lift their spirits. Peace

Senior Companion Care available On and Off Campus

A Non-Medical, Senior Companionship Program

If your family member or loved one enjoys their independence, but is challenged with everyday activities, Brothers of Mercy Senior Companion Care is the solution.

With Brothers of Mercy Senior Companion Care, you'll have the peace of mind you've provided your loved one with the best possible care available.

For additional information, contact Susan Reilly, Senior Companion Care Coordinator, at **716-291-6178**. She will discuss how it works, a care plan, times and shifts your loved one needs, payment and any other questions you may have.





Remembering Brother Hugh Denomme, F.M.M.A.

One of the Brothers of Mercy Clarence Congregation's longest serving members, Brother Hugh Denomme, passed away on Saturday, July 18, 2020, on the Brothers of Mercy Campus, at the age of 82. Brother Hugh served in the Brothers of Mercy Mary Help of Christians for 64 dedicated years.

Born George Anthony Dennome, in Detroit, Michigan, Brother Hugh was the second born of five children, and spent much of his adolescence acting as a caregiver for his chronically ill brother. He attributes these experiences with having a major influence on leading him to a life of service with the Brothers of Mercy.



Brother Hugh attended Detroit University High School, a Jesuit, all-boys high school, where he originally felt called to become a member of a Jesuit mission in India. While contemplating this potential path, he stumbled upon a Brothers of Mercy pamphlet in the school library, which inspired him to charter a bus to Buffalo, NY at the young age of seventeen. Here he witnessed the Brothers' mission in action, as they honored Christ through selfless service to others.

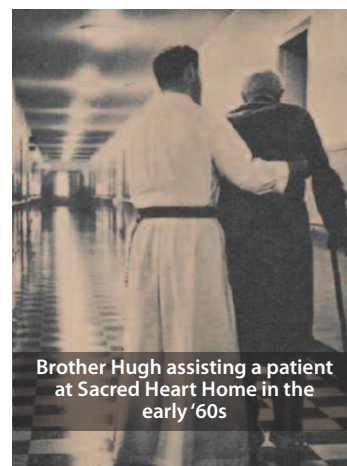


Trusting that "God knows what he's doing," Brother Hugh took a leap of faith and pledged to become a part of their beautiful legacy. He joined the Novitiate program in 1955, professing his vows in March of 1956, and got right to work on the medical floors as a Novice Nursing Aid. Brother Hugh recalled the work as being "very intense and requiring much dedication." He even reported into night duty shifts while sick with pneumonia, because "that was the kind of work ethic instilled by our German founders."

Various roles held included Head Nurse at Sacred Heart Home in Clarence, working alongside Brother Xavier O'Neill at Mercy Manor in Kansas City, along with St. Vincent's Nursing Home in Oklahoma City, and even serving at the Jewett Parkway residence in downtown Buffalo, aiding not only patients, but their families, by providing them with respite.

A lover of travel (with a taste for adventure), Brother Hugh never hesitated to jump in the car and travel cross-country. His travels even spanned the continents and included serving as a delegate at the Brothers of Mercy headquarters in Montabaur, Germany.

With over six decades of dedicated service, Br. Hugh truly exemplified the mission statement of the Brothers of Mercy: "The Charity of Christ Urges Us On". He will be remembered fondly in the hearts and prayers of the many, many people whose lives he touched.



Brothers Community Celebrate 170 Years



On June 23rd, the Brothers of Mercy of Mary Help of Christians, Clarence community of Brothers, along with other members of the Brothers of Mercy Mary Help of Christians Congregation throughout the world celebrate the 170th Anniversary of their founding. In 1850, Bishop Arnoldi of Trier, Germany gave the approval for Blessed Brother Peter Friedhofen to open a new house of the Brothers of Mercy in the Diocese of Trier.

Through Brother Peter's compassionate service and dedication, a rich legacy of serving those most in need was born. This mission extended across the world throughout the coming decades. The Brothers of Mercy have been honoring Christ through service to those in Western New York since 1924. Today, they commemorate this occasion by reciting the Office of Holy Men/Religious during morning and evening prayers.

From the Archives



J. F. Burnham F. M. Keane R. J. Wehle
Building fund officials check goal for drive

Brothers of Mercy Drive To Raise \$690,000 for Home

By RAY DEARLOVE

The opening today of a \$690,000 building fund drive for the Brothers of Mercy and the appointment of a division chairman have been announced by Richard J. Wehle, general chairman of the appeal.

Appointed chairman of the Business and Commercial Division of the drive is Minot H. Ortolani, a vice president of the Manufacturers & Traders Trust Co. Assisting him as vice chairman is Constant S. Galus, president of E. M. Hager & Sons Co.

The Brothers of Mercy need the \$690,000 to help finance a 240-bed health facilities building under construction at their Sacred Heart Home grounds at 4520 Ransom Rd., Clarence. The funds will also allow required renovation to Sacred Heart Home, the addition of a 94-bed extended care facility, and the construction of a residence for the brothers.

Will Replace Farmhouse
"The residence building would

replace the 75-year-old converted farmhouse that has housed the brothers," said Wehle. "If the drive is successful, it will also allow the brothers to complete fiscal obligations incurred in construction of the 1963 addition made to Sacred Heart Home."

Wehle said over \$200,000 has been pledged by members of the Brothers' Lay Advisory Board, employees of Sacred Heart Home, and by residents of the 100-unit apartment complex for the elderly on the Clarence property. Wehle is chairman of the advisory board.

The Brothers of Mercy established their operations here in 1924 when several members of the religious congregation came from Germany and settled on Cottage St. with the intent of providing nursing care for elderly men. Only donations were accepted.

Bought Land in 1951

The service grew and has been housed in larger quarters at 183 Jewett Pky. since 1938.

In 1951, the brothers purchased 126 acres of land at the Ransom Rd. site in Clarence and constructed Sacred Heart Home which opened as a 36-bed nursing home in 1953.

In 1963, the home was enlarged to accommodate 91 male patients. In 1971 the home was licensed as an extended care facility and women were admitted for the first time.

Also in 1971, the brothers constructed a housing complex adjacent to the home to accommodate persons on fixed or moderate incomes. There are 100 apartments in the complex which was financed through the Federal Housing and Urban Development Dept. and the New York State Housing and Urban Development Agency.

Co-chairmen of the overall fund drive are John F. Burnham, president of J. Burnham's Inc.; James T. Clauss, president of Clauss & Co., and Frank M. Keane, president of Joseph Strauss Co. Div. of Emprise Corp.



1957 NOVICE CLASS
A number of young novice Brothers gather to take a group shot



COTTAGE STREET RESIDENCE
In 1925, the Brothers established a residence on Cottage Street.



BROTHERS IN SERVICE
Brothers living the mission...
"The Charity of Christ urges us on"